4/3/89

Mr. Paul Rothermel
Hunt Oil Co.
1401 Elm St.
Dallas, Texas 75202

Dear Paul,

Gary has sent me a carbon of his March 7 letter to you. One of the wonderful things about working with him and one of his peers is that they never need to be asked or told. If either sees something he thinks should be done, he goes and does it. I sent him copies of my correspondence with the people in any way involved with "Farewell America". When he detected some, especially Jaffe, were holding back on me, he made his own pathways. He is getting his information, wisely, from someone who will not, for personal pique, give it to me.

One thing only is lacking in his letter. It is for this reason that I write you. The person who wrote me is embarrassed because he also was suckered in on the bum deal. It took me a long time to get him to tell me as much as he did. He is an honest man and would not consciously lie, but his involvement shades his thinking and expression of it.

Jaffee is not to be trusted because of the kind of ambitious young man he is (who does not have the ability to enable his ambition and therefore seeks to advance himself in other ways. It is not so much that he is a willful liar (as he can be) as that he wants to "succeed", as he understands success. What he said is, in essence, what I gave you. I doubt very much that he ever got any "evidence" at all from those people in Europe and I have reason to believe that if he had turned anything of this sort in I would have been able to give it to you in November. Gary did not know this. Nonetheless, it is good to check it out, as he is.

As Gary's memo shows, he has located the LIFE spread on the Frenchman. When those who saw "Philippe" see these rather inadequate pictures, we may learn whether de Vosjoli and "Philippe" are, as I suspect is possible, the same guy. If it turns our to be so, then I think you can feel confident the job on Mr. Hunt was by the CIA, for there is little doubt de V was double. I haven't had time to go further. I asked another young man to get in touch with the Topaz publishers, using his journalism major as an excuse, to get all the publicity materiel. He has not done it. They'd never give it to me. I also think the New York Times index should be checked on the name and the book. We might get a better picture. There was a scandal. Maybe Gary has done this,

Don't forget the stuff on the extremists. With Stoner now representing Ray, is may be more significant.

Best regards,

Harold Weisberg